

ANNOUNCEMENT BY THE SPEAKER PRO TEMPORE

The SPEAKER pro tempore (Mr. POE of Texas). Members are advised to direct their comments to the Chair.

BUDGETLESS RESOLUTION

(Mr. CICILLINE asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute.)

Mr. CICILLINE. Mr. Speaker, I rise today with serious concerns about the misguided agenda our friends on the other side of the aisle are pursuing.

While Democrats continue to make job creation, economic recovery, and debt reduction top priorities, the majority continues to engage in political theater. In fact, their first actions after assuming control of the House haven't created a single job or protected a single American business.

Instead, the other side's top priority has been to repeal the patient protections provided by the new health care reform bill; and their so-called "budget resolution" they have offered today is a one-page document with no specific cuts to reduce spending, no budget numbers and, most importantly, no ideas on job creation or on economic recovery.

Mr. Speaker, we were sent here to create jobs and get the American economy back on track, both the Republicans and Democrats. Let's stop the political gimmickry, and let's get to the work of putting the American people back to work.

DEFICIT REDUCTION PLANS—NOT AMBIGUOUS GOALS

(Mr. ALTMIRE asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute.)

Mr. ALTMIRE. Mr. Speaker, as we look forward to tonight's State of the Union Address, it is important for all of us to keep in mind the most important issues to the American people: jobs, the economy, and deficit reduction. In the weeks and months ahead, we look forward to working together, Democrats and Republicans, to focus our legislative attention on these issues.

As we debate these issues, it is easy to simply identify the problem. We all know that unemployment is too high, that recovery is not as fast as we would like, and that the deficit is out of control; but the time for simply defining the problem has long since passed, and realistic solutions are long overdue. As we near completion of our first month of the new Congress, the American people are still waiting to hear the majority's specific recommendations on how to address these issues.

Tonight, we will hear from the President. I look forward to soon hearing from the majority some specific details about their deficit reduction plans, not just ambiguous goals.

□ 1210

HONORING FALLEN OFFICERS IN ST. PETERSBURG, FLORIDA

(Ms. CASTOR of Florida asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend her remarks.)

Ms. CASTOR of Florida. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor the sacrifice of two St. Petersburg, Florida, police officers who were killed in the line of duty yesterday.

Sergeant Tom Baitinger and Officer Jeffrey Yaslowitz were following up on a Fugitive Task Force warrant when they and a deputy U.S. marshal were ambushed and shot. Officer Yaslowitz was fatally shot while trying to arrest the dangerous fugitive; Officer Baitinger was shot while attempting to rescue his colleagues.

Officer Yaslowitz was 39 years old. He was a K-9 officer and had worked with his canine partner, "Ace," for the last 2 years. He is survived by his wife, Lorraine, and three young children. Sergeant Thomas J. Baitinger was 48 years old. He is survived by his wife, Paige.

As my colleague, Congressman BILL YOUNG, stated yesterday from this floor, we pray for their families, the St. Petersburg Police Department, Mayor Bill Foster, and Police Chief Chuck Harmon, and we honor the sacrifice of our community heroes and all who wear the uniform of service.

TONIGHT'S OFF-BROADWAY PERFORMANCE

(Mr. McDERMOTT asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. McDERMOTT. Madam Speaker, I want to give folks a preview of tonight's off-Broadway performance that will follow the President's State of the Union Address.

The stage will be the House Budget Committee hearing room. The actor in the one-man show will be Republican Representative PAUL RYAN from Wisconsin. The script will begin with something like, Hello, I'm Representative PAUL RYAN, and I'm speaking to you from the very location where the Democratic job-killing spending binge unfolded during the last 2 years. Unfortunately, the script for tonight's performance will not include the fact that Democratic investments have created more jobs during the last 2 years than were created during the entire 8 years of George Bush. You also won't hear about the one thing that Republicans fought tooth and nail for during the last 2 years: an extension of a budget-busting \$700 billion tax break for wealthy Americans.

Coming attractions? The chairman will have another show in the next week where he pulls a budget number from a hat filled with rabbits. That will be our budget number. Enjoy the show.

CALLING FOR TRANSPARENCY IN CAMPAIGN FINANCE

(Mr. McNERNEY asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute.)

Mr. McNERNEY. Madam Speaker, I rise to discuss the importance of reducing the influence of corporate special interest money in our elections.

As a result of the Citizens United decision, corporations and other special interests are free to pump unlimited sums of money into campaign attacks. And worse yet, because of this decision there is no good mechanism to keep money from foreign sources out of our elections. We need reform that brings transparency to the campaign finance system and protects the best interests of middle class families.

I will call on the new majority to work in a bipartisan fashion to bring transparency to the campaign finance system. I supported the DISCLOSE Act last year, and I believe this bill is a good first step. I will continue standing up for middle class families.

USING AMERICAN RESOURCES TO CREATE JOBS

(Mr. MURPHY of Pennsylvania asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute.)

Mr. MURPHY of Pennsylvania. Madam Speaker, tonight we will hear about the State of the Union. I hope we hear the sometimes painful truth about the State of the Union: more jobs lost in the last couple of years and we need to do something about that.

But the answer is not more spending that leads us to a greater deficit and more borrowing from China. The answer is not to continue to have higher gas prices because we are buying our oil from OPEC, which they use to build their lavish palaces and drive their Rolls Royces while our communities are trying to find ways to afford the patching compound to patch up our potholes. What we need to be doing is taking action that uses our resources to create American jobs.

A bill that I am going to be reintroducing from last year is one that says, Let's stop this moratorium that prevents us from using our oil, from drilling our resources. We can actually create jobs and have about \$3 trillion-plus in Federal revenue without raising taxes, without raising our trade deficit, and without sending more money to OPEC.

I hope this is something this Congress considers and this President has an open mind to dealing with so that we can create jobs without creating more deficit.

STANDING TOGETHER FOR THE ECONOMY

(Mr. HIMES asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)